

Introduction to the 2007 AETE/ATAP Catalog

Preface

The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center's (USAASC) vision continues to be as relevant today as it was at its inception more than ten years ago. It is a cost-benefit equation. A well-educated, well-trained Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (AL&T) Workforce is crucial to supporting the Army's current transformation, as well as to sustaining and improving current weapons systems critical in the support of our Soldiers.

In keeping with this philosophy, the recurring goal remains – to provide the best possible support to our Soldiers. To ensure this goal is met, we must provide the AL&T Workforce with the best educational and career development opportunities possible. Budget constraints and other reduced resources present extraordinary challenges. Working together, we must ensure the AL&T Workforce is properly trained and educated to meet the needs of our Joint forces and comply with mandates of statute. Additionally, we must continue to search for the most cost-effective means to meet our mission and garner avenues to transform, utilizing best business practices, while achieving a high-level of continuous, measurable improvement.

Solid leadership skills are a prerequisite to success in today's ever-changing business setting. To guarantee future leaders acquire a broad knowledge base, there must be a balance between a quality education, leadership training and career broadening opportunities that will enhance the technical and functional competency and leadership skills obtained through a specific career program. The Acquisition Career Development Plan (ACDP) provides the framework to assist AL&T Workforce members with career progression and provides the tools necessary to achieve success at all levels. The Acquisition Education, Training and Experience/Acquisition Tuition Assistance Program (AETE/ATAP) Catalog outlines those opportunities that will assist AL&T Workforce members in attaining career progression in accordance with the ACDP.

The Army continues to be fully committed to the functional and leadership development of the AL&T Workforce; however, you are the best manager and advocate for your own career. I encourage you to strive to be competitive and to advance your own career through appropriate training and other opportunities outlined in the AETE/ATAP Catalog.



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About This Catalog

The Army's Director of Acquisition Career Management (DACM) has always placed strong emphasis on the need for continuous career development and a balance of quality education, career broadening experiences and leadership training. In addition, the Under Secretary of Defense's (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Policy on Continuous Learning (posted at http://USAASC.army.mil/docs/policy/army_cl_proc.doc) directs that civilian and military acquisition professionals participate in learning activities that augment required minimum education, training and experience standards established for certification purposes for Acquisition Career Fields (ACFs).

USAASC has developed the ACDP as a career-planning framework for the AL&T Workforce. The ACDP provides the information and tools necessary to assist AL&T Workforce members in developing the progression of individual careers.

The Acquisition Record Briefs (e.g., the Acquisition Career Record Brief (ACRB) for civilians and military members of the Army National Guard (ARNG) or the Officer Record Brief (ORB)) are the tools that provide 1-page snapshots of completed training, education, job experience, awards, acquisition status and current position information. The Individual Development Plan (IDP), by contrast, is a 5-year plan that outlines those future opportunities required to meet career goals.

With the assistance of your first line supervisor, you can ensure that achievements outlined in the ACRB and those opportunities addressed in the IDP support the methodology outlined in the ACDP and work to achieve an appropriate balance of training, education and experience.

Acquisition Career Managers (ACMs) are available for career guidance, support and assistance for all AL&T Workforce members, to include Competitive Development Group-Army Acquisition Fellowship (CDG-AAF) and Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) members. ACMs are located regionally. Military Acquisition Corps members should contact the Human Resources Command, Acquisition Management Branch for assistance (<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/opfam51/ambmain.htm>). Information on Regional Customer Support Offices and the ACMs can be found at <http://USAASC.army.mil/contact/acms.cfm>.

The AETE/ATAP Catalog outlines many of the opportunities available to meet the standards established by the policy. The catalog is divided into three major categories:

1. The Educational/Academic category includes degree-producing programs at institutions of higher education.
2. The Training category includes the subcategories of Functional/Technical Training and Leadership Training.

3. The Experiential and Developmental category provides AL&T Workforce members with career-broadening opportunities through developmental assignments and operational experience. This category also addresses the CDG-AAF Program.

The AETE/ATAP Catalog is intended to provide basic information on available opportunities and the process by which to apply. For additional information and specific dates, Web addresses and hyperlinks are provided. Also, the electronic version of the AETE/ATAP Catalog (<http://USAASC.army.mil/pubs/aete>) will continue to be the source for the most current dates as they become available.

All AL&T Workforce members are encouraged to provide feedback to Herman Gaines, Jr., ((703) 805-1252, DSN 655-1252 or e-mail: herman.gainesjr@us.army.mil) or Gloria King ((703)805-1251, DSN 655-1251 or e-mail: gloria.king@us.army.mil) regarding this catalog. The USAASC staff looks forward to developing new opportunities to broaden and enhance your acquisition careers.